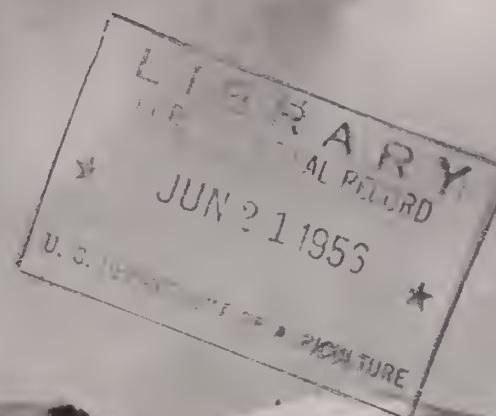


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Reserve
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Federal - State Cooperative
Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasts
for
NEVADA



BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEVADA AGRICULTURE EXPERIMENT STATION
AND
NEVADA STATE ENGINEER

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation with the Federal, State and local organizations listed on the last page of this report.

AS OF
FEB. 1, 1954

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

TO RECIPIENTS OF COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEY
AND WATER SUPPLY FORECAST REPORTS:

Forecasts by U. S. Weather Bureau of total annual streamflow October-September, inclusive, at more than 300 gaging stations are issued monthly January through May in the publication **WATER SUPPLY FORECASTS FOR THE WESTERN UNITED STATES**.

Weather Bureau forecasts of runoff presented in that bulletin are computed from procedures based on mathematical analysis of the relation between precipitation and runoff.

The Weather Bureau bulletins may be secured by writing to:

Hydrologist in Charge
River Forecast Center
U. S. Weather Bureau
712 Federal Office Building
Kansas City 6, Missouri

For current information on local river and flood conditions, reference should be made to the appropriate River District Office, listed below:

Meteorologist in Charge.....Truckee, Carson, Walker
Weather Bureau Airport Station and Susan River Basins.
Box 1250
Reno, Nev.

Climatologist.....Humboldt River Basin
Weather Bureau Office and other miscellaneous
501 Federal Bldg. Basins in Nevada with
Salt Lake City 1, Utah the exception of the
Truckee, Carson, Walker
and Susan River Basins

State of Nevada

FEDERAL-STATE COOPERATIVE
SNOW SURVEYS AND IRRIGATION WATER FORECASTS

FOR

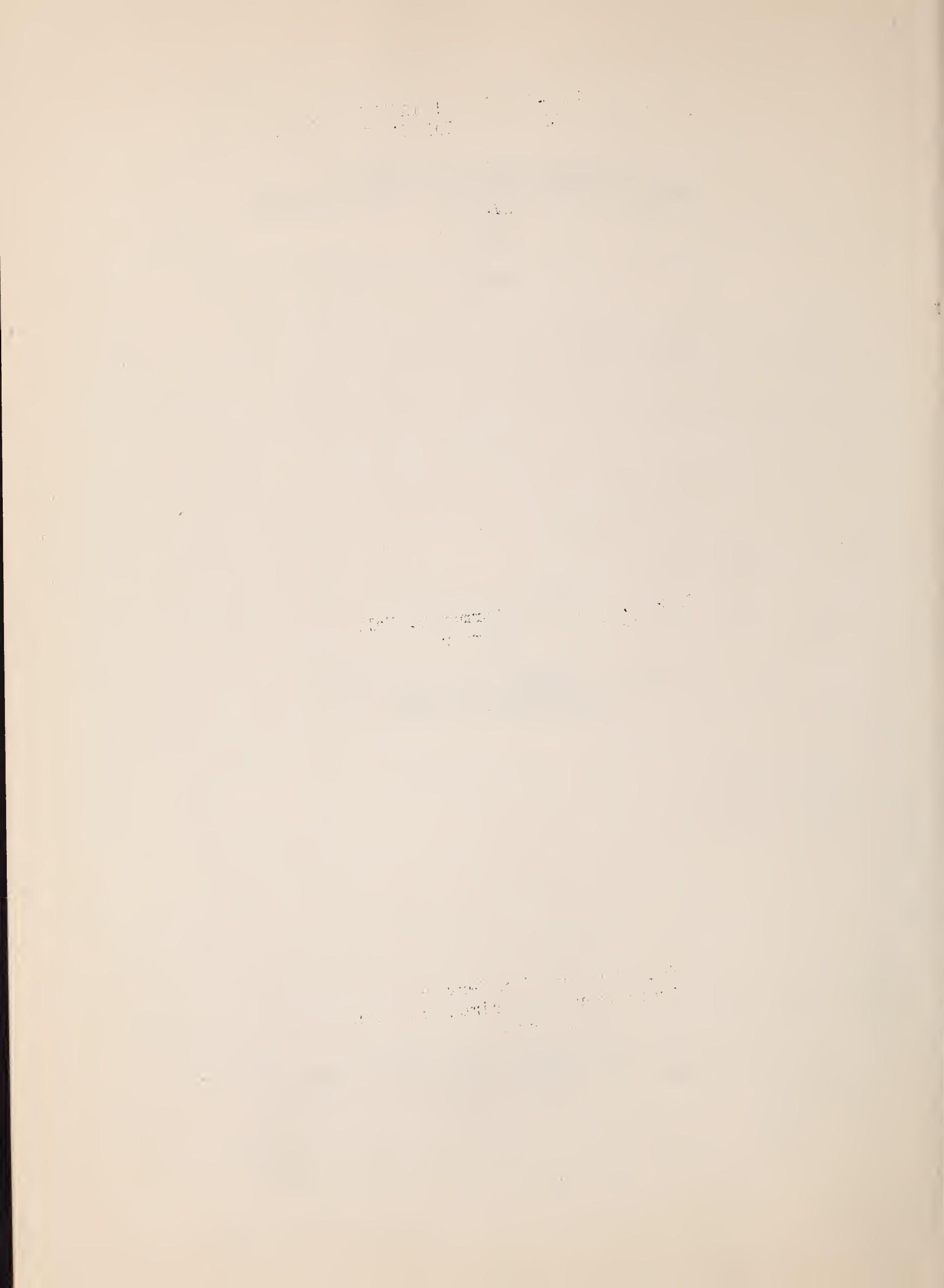
NEVADA

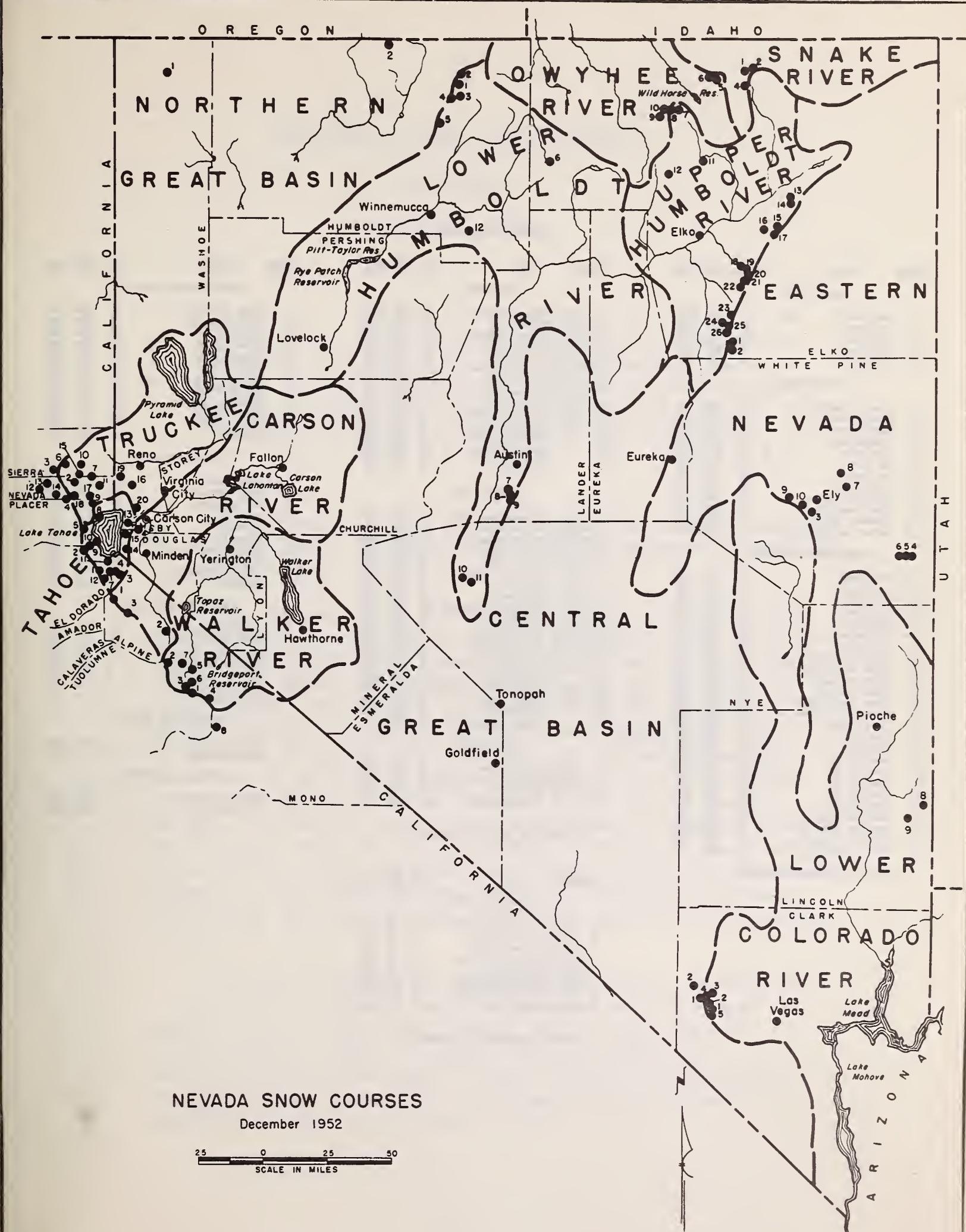
Report Prepared

by

Clyde E. Houston & Norman S. Hall
Irrigation Engineers

Soil Conservation Service
Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station
Reno, Nevada





NEVADA SNOW COURSES

December 1952

25 0 25 50
SCALE IN MILES

INDEX TO SNOW COURSES

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SEC.</u>	<u>TWP.</u>	<u>RGE.</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SEC.</u>	<u>TWP.</u>	<u>RGE.</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SEC.</u>	<u>TWP.</u>	<u>RGE.</u>										
SNAKE RIVER																								
1.	Bear Creek	31	46N	58E	1.	(Cal.) Lake Lucille	28	12N	17E	1.	Lower Buckskin	25	45N	39E										
2.	Fox Creek	33	46N	58E	2.	(Cal.) Rubicon #1	6	13N	17E	2.	Upper Buckskin	11	45N	39E										
4.	76 Creek	6	44N	58E	3.	(Cal.) Hagans Meadow	36	12N	18E	3.	Martin Creek	18	44N	40E										
5.*	Gold Creek	31	45N	58E	4.	(Cal.) Freel Bench	36	12N	18E	4.	Granite Peak	22	44N	39E										
6.*	Big Bend	30	45N	58E	5.	(Cal.) Ward Creek	21	15N	18E	5.	Lance Creek	13	42N	38E										
OWYHEE RIVER																								
1.*	Lower Buckskin	25	45N	39E	6.	(Cal.) Upper Truckee	21	12N	18E	6.	Midas	18	39N	46E										
2.*	Upper Buckskin	11	45N	39E	7.	(Cal.) Tahoe City	6	15N	17E	7.	Big Creek Camp Ground	10	17N	43E										
3.*	Martin Creek	18	44N	40E	8.	(Cal.) Rubicon #2	6	13N	17E	8.	Big Creek Mine	23	17N	43E										
4.*	Granite Peak	22	44N	39E	10.	(Cal.) Rubicon #3	32	14N	17E	9.	Upper Big Creek	26	17N	43E										
5.	Gold Creek	31	45N	56E	11.	(Cal.) Richardsons #2	6	12N	18E	10.	Lower Corral	12	11N	40E										
6.	Big Bend	30	45N	56E	12.	(Cal.) Echo Summit	6	11N	18E	11.	Upper Corral	20	11N	41E										
7.*	Fry Canyon	31	43N	54E	13.	Marlette Lake	13	15N	18E	12.	Golconda	22	35N	39E										
8.*	Rodeo Flat	36	43N	52E	14.	Daggetts Pass	19	13N	19E	EASTERN NEVADA														
9.	Lower Jack Creek	18	42N	53E	15.	Glenbrook #2	13	14N	18E	1.	Cave Creek	25	27N	57E										
10.	Upper Jack Creek	9	42N	53E	16.*	Mt. Rose	7	17N	19E	2.	Hager Canyon	34	27N	57E										
11.*	Tremewan Ranch	9	39N	55E	TRUCKEE RIVER																			
12.*	Taylor Canyon	35	39N	53E	1.	(Cal.) Independence Lake	9	18N	15E	3.	Murray Summit	25	16N	62E										
UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER																								
1.*	Bear Creek	31	46N	58E	2.	(Cal.) Webber Peak	30	19N	18E	4.	Baker #1	29	13N	69E										
2.*	Fox Creek	33	46N	58E	3.*	(Cal.) Donner Summit	25	17N	18E	5.	Baker #2	30	13N	69E										
4.*	76 Creek	6	44N	58E	4.	(Cal.) Ward Creek	21	15N	16E	6.	Baker #3	25	13N	68E										
5.*	Gold Creek	31	45N	58E	5.	(Cal.) Webber Lake	20	19N	18E	7.	Berry Creek	26	17N	65E										
6.*	Big Bend	30	45N	58E	6.	(Cal.) Sage Hen Creek	7	18N	16E	8.	Bird Creek	34	19N	65E										
7.*	Fry Canyon	31	43N	54E	7.	(Cal.) Tahoe City	6	15N	17E	9.	Robinson Summit	34	18N	61E										
8.*	Rodeo Flat	36	43N	52E	8.*	(Cal.) Truckee #2	22	17N	16E	10.	Kimberly	18	16N	62E										
9.*	Lower Jack Creek	18	42N	53E	9.	(Cal.) Independence Creek	14	19N	15E	LOWER COLORADO RIVER														
10.*	Upper Jack Creek	9	42N	53E	10.	(Cal.) Boca #2	28	18N	17E	1.	Rainbow Canyon	31	19S	57E										
11.	Tremewan Ranch	9	39N	55E	11.	(Cal.) Furnace Flat	10	17N	13E	2.	Kyle Canyon	26	19S	56E										
12.	Taylor Canyon	35	39N	53E	12.*	(Cal.) Fordyce Lake	34	18N	13E	3.	Lee Canyon #1	10	19S	56E										
13.	Lower Trout Creek	28	37N	61E	13.*	(Cal.) Soda Springs	23	17N	18E	4.	Lee Canyon #2	9	19S	56E										
14.	Upper Trout Creek	4	36N	61E	14.	(Cal.) Independence Camp	34	19N	15E	5.	Rainbow Canyon #2	6	20S	57E										
15.	Dorsey Basin	28	35N	60E	15.	Mt. Rose	7	17N	19E	8.	Matthew Canyon	11	5S	70E										
16.	Ryan Ranch	1	34N	59E	16.	(Cal.) Truckee Ranger Sta.	10	17N	16E	9.	Pine Canyon	11	6S	69E										
17.	Dry Creek	5	34N	60E	17.	(Cal.) Donner Lake	14	17N	15E	CENTRAL GREAT BASIN														
18.	Lamoille #1	15	32N	58E	18.	(Cal.) Little Valley	17	16N	19E	1.	Clark Canyon	8	19S	56E										
19.	Lamoille #2	14	32N	58E	CARSON RIVER																			
20.	Lamoille #3	24	32N	58E	1.	(Cal.) Carson Pass	22	10N	18E	2.	Trough Springs	23	18S	55E										
21.	Lamoille #4	19	32N	59E	2.	(Cal.) Poison Flat	25	8N	21E	NORTHERN GREAT BASIN														
22.	Lamoille #5	31	32N	59E	3.	(Cal.) Blue Lakes	30	9N	19E	1.	Bald Mountain	17	45N	21E										
23.	Greep Mountain	23	29N	57E	4.	(Cal.) Clear Creek	16	14N	19E	2.	Disaster Peak	8	47N	34E										
24.	Harrison Pass #1	9	28N	57E	WALKER RIVER																			
25.	Harrison Pass #2	16	28N	57E	1.	(Cal.) Center Mountain	4	3N	23E	2.	(Cal.) Sonora Pass	1	5N	21E										
26.	Corral Canyon	27	28N	57E	2.	(Cal.) Buckeye Forks	20	4N	23E	3.	(Cal.) Virginia Lakes	5	2N	25E										
					4.	(Cal.) Willow Flat	21	5N	23E	5.	(Cal.) Buckeye Roughs	15	4N	23E										
					6.	(Cal.) Leavitt Meadows	4	5N	22E	7.	(Cal.) Tioga Pass	30	1N	25E										

* Located on adjacent watershed

NUMBER NAME SEC. TWP. RGE.

WALKER RIVER

1.	(Cal.) Center Mountain	4	3N	23E
2.	(Cal.) Sonora Pass	1	5N	21E
3.	(Cal.) Buckeye Forks	20	4N	23E
4.	(Cal.) Virginia Lakes	5	2N	25E
5.	(Cal.) Willow Flat	21	5N	23E
6.	(Cal.) Buckeye Roughs	15	4N	23E
7.	(Cal.) Leavitt Meadows	4	5N	22E
8.*	(Cal.) Tioga Pass	30	1N	25E

* Located on adjacent watershed

PRELIMINARY WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

FOR NEVADA

February 1, 1954

*
* Snow stored water throughout Nevada is below nor- *
* mal for this date. The present outlook is for *
* water shortages in areas not served by reservoired*
* water. Above normal snowfall during the next two *
* months is needed to moderate expected shortages. *
* *

Snow surveys on key courses throughout Nevada indicate that below normal snowmelt runoff may be expected during the coming irrigation season.

Snow stored water on the watershed of Upper Humboldt River ranges from 50 to 75 percent of normal. The southern half of the State continues to be dry. Low elevation snow on Truckee watershed is about 50 percent normal for this date, while high elevation snow is about 85 percent of February 1 normal. Lake Tahoe snow water ranges from about 50 percent of normal for this date at the low elevations to about 65 percent at high elevations. Snow cover decreases in moving south along the east slope of the Sierra Nevada. At Carson Pass, on the headwaters of Carson River, snow stored water was only 60 percent of the 23 year average. Snow surveys at Sonora Pass and Virginia Lakes, on the headwaters of the Walker River, indicate a snow pack at high elevations in this watershed about 50 percent of the normal February 1 pack.

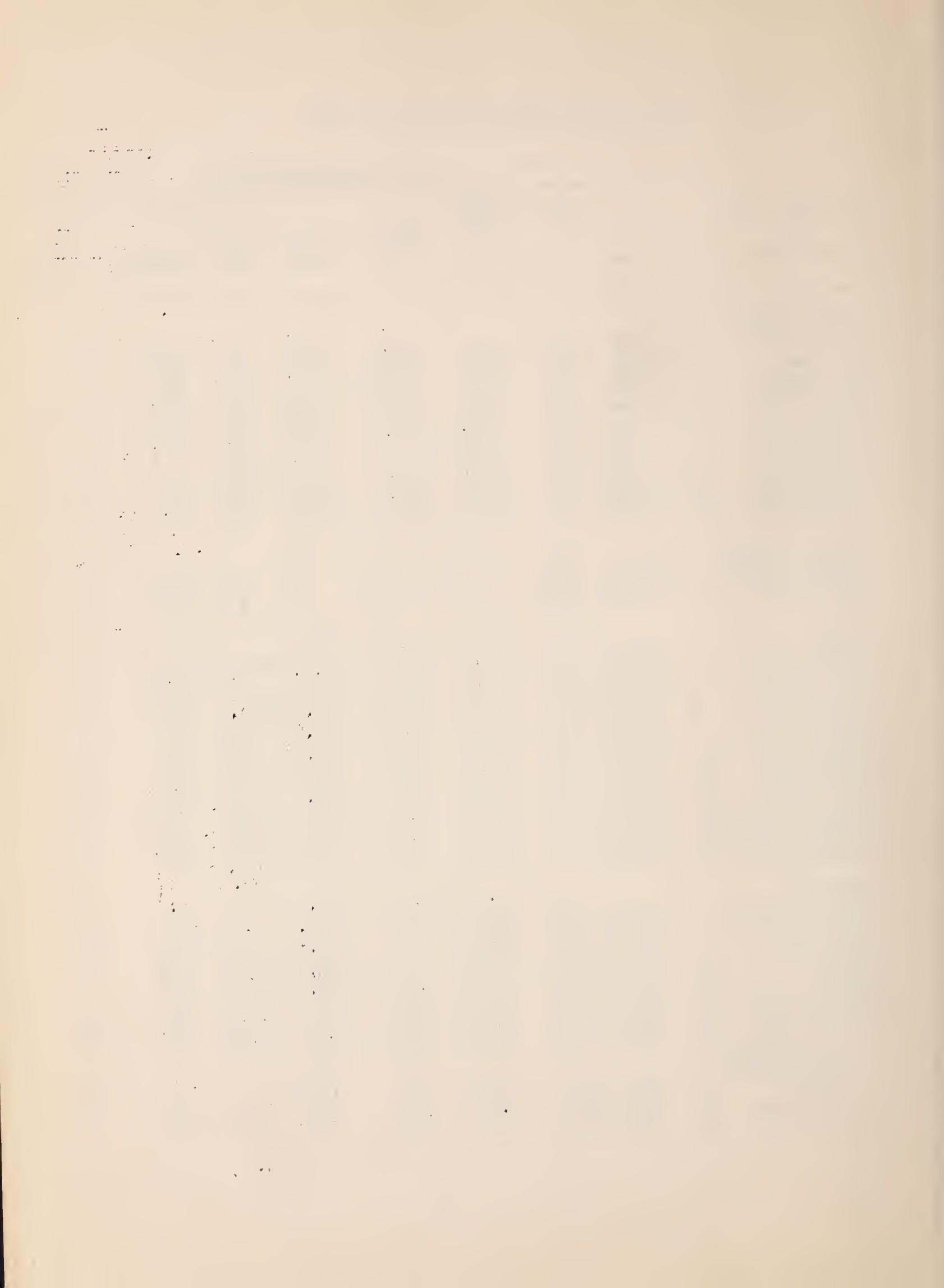
Reservoir storage is good with February 1 storage in 7 important reservoirs about 10 percent above the past 10 year average. Lake Mead, behind Hoover Dam, stored 16,511,000 acre feet of usable water on February 1. This is 84 percent of the past 10 year average and the least in storage on this date since the reservoir was allowed to approach filling in the late 1930's.

STATUS OF RESERVOIR STORAGE, FEBRUARY 1, 1954

BASIN AND STREAM	RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY THOUS. (Thous. A.F.)	ACRE FEET USABLE STORAGE ABOUT FEB. 1					10-yr. Ave. 1942 - 1951
			1954	1953	1952	1951		
Owyhee	Wildhorse	33	16	18	10	15	13	
Lower Humboldt	Rye Patch	178	85	137	92	56	111	
Colorado	Mohave	1,810	1,686	1,621	1,601	1,329	New reservoir	
Colorado	Mead	27,217	16,511	18,972	17,375	17,654	19,669	
Tahoe	Tahoe	732	533	600	599	591	437	
Truckee	Boca	41	5	14	3	23	12	
Carson	Lahontan	286	212	240	174	230	201	
West Walker	Topazz	59	36	51	34	42	37	
East Walker	Bridgeport	42	32	35	34	34	30	

NEVADA SNOW SURVEYS FEBRUARY 1, 1954

DRAINAGE BASIN and SNOW COURSE		No.	Elev.	Survey	SNOW COVER MEASUREMENTS			Past Record			Years of Record
					Date of Survey	Snow Depth (In.)	Water Content (In.)	1953	1952	Average	
UPPER HUMBOLDT											
Gold Creek	5	6600	1/27		13.6	3.2	5.0	8.5	5.8		5
Big Bend	6	6700	1/27		20.3	5.2	7.0	12.5	9.9		6
Fry Canyon	7	6700	1/28		17.0	4.5	6.5	13.3	8.0		4
Rodeo Flat	8	6800	1/28		16.6	4.6	6.6	13.0	8.2		4
Lamoille #1	18	7100	2/1		24.4	7.0	5.6	N.S.	5.9		9
Lamoille #2	19	7200	2/1		20.3	5.5	5.7	N.S.	5.7		1
Lamoille #3	20	7700	2/1		29.3	8.2	7.7	N.S.	7.7		1
Lamoille #4	21	8000	2/1		38.1	11.6	11.3	N.S.	11.3		1
Lamoille #5	22	8700	2/1		45.8	15.1	18.7	N.S.	18.7		1
LOWER COLORADO											
Mathew Canyon	8	6000	1/30		0	0	0	1.9	2.2		5
Pine Canyon	9	6200	1/31		0	0	0	1.8	2.6		5
TAHOE											
Hagans Meadow	3	8000	2/2		29.5	8.5	No survey	17.2			1
Freel Bench	4	7300	2/2		19.6	6.3	N.S.	24.2	13.5		4
Ward Creek	5	7000	2/3		60.0	20.8	No survey	29.8			6
Upper Truckee	7	6400	2/2		16.2	5.3	11.4	22.0	9.7		7
Tahoe City	8	6250	2/3		15.4	5.5	14.6	28.5	9.6		19
Richardsons	11	6500	2/2		32.7	9.6	16.0	31.9	17.2		4
Echo Summit	12	7500	2/1		60.4	15.8	28.1	59.4	26.1		12
Marlette Lake	13	8000	2/1		32.3	8.5	No surveys	14.1			13
Daggetts Pass	14	7350	2/1		20.3	5.7	11.9	N.S.	9.6		7
Glenbrook #2	15	6900	2/1		27.2	7.2	No surveys	15.2			2
TRUCKEE											
Donner Summit	4	6900	1/26		67.8	19.4	34.2	60.3	23.5		32
Sage Hen	7	6500	2/4		28.6	8.9	17.2	35.4	15.2		10
Truckee #2	9	6400	1/28		27.2	7.4	N.S.	N.S.	10.6		6
Boca	11	5900	2/3		9.9	3.2	10.1	18.2	7.9		6
Furnace Flat	12	6600	1/27		71.5	22.7	40.7	N.S.	26.0		27
Fordyce Lake	13	6500	1/27		61.2	20.4	37.2	N.S.	22.2		26
Soda Springs	14	6750	1/26		60.5	18.5	33.8	55.6	22.4		24
Truckee Ranger Station	17	6000	2/3		19.3	6.1	13.4	26.3	12.2		5
Donner Lake	18	5950	2/3		33.1	11.2	22.6	N.S.	17.2		6
Squaw Valley	21	7500	2/2		78.0	26.6	47.4	N.S.	47.4		1



NEVADA SNOW SURVEYS FEBRUARY 1, 1954

		SNOW COVER MEASUREMENTS							
		1954					Past Record		
DRAINAGE BASIN and SNOW COURSE	No.	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (In.)	Water Content (In.)	Water Content (In.)	1953	1952	Average	Years of Record
CARSON									
Carson Pass	1	8600	2/4	41.7	12.9	26.8	47.3	21.4	23
WALKER									
Sonora Pass	2	8800	1/29	34.6	7.9	No	surveys		
Virginia Lakes	4	9500	1/29	34.3	6.9	No	surveys		
Tioga Pass	8	9900	1/30	37.0	11.3	18.6	22.0	19.5	4

NEVADA COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

Agencies Cooperating in Collecting Data Contained
in this Bulletin

FEDERAL

Soil Conservation Service
Forest Service
Geological Survey
Bureau of Reclamation
Fish and Wildlife Service
Army
Navy
Air Force

STATE

Nevada State Engineer
Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station
Nevada State Forester-Firewarden
Colorado River Commission of Nevada
California Cooperative Snow Surveys
California Division of Water Resources
Oregon Cooperative Snow Surveys

PRIVATE

Walker River Irrigation District
Amalgamated Sugar Company
Owyhee Project North Board of Control
Owyhee Project South Board of Control
Virginia City Water Company
Kennebott Copper Corporation
Squaw Valley Development Company
Pacific Gas & Electric Company
Nevada Irrigation District





Federal - State - Private
COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

Furnishes the basic data
necessary for forecasting
water supply for irrigation,
domestic and municipal water
supply, hydro-electric power
generation, navigation,
mining and industry

"WATER IS THE WEST'S GREATEST RESOURCE"